Appl. No. 10/807,042 Amdt. dated July 22, 2004 Preliminary Amendment

PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants, by this paper, delete the first paragraph of the application, appearing under the heading "RELATED APPLICATION(S)," and replace it with a paragraph which identifies the application as claiming the benefit of Provisional U.S. Application No. 60/456,509.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully believe all claims pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 858-350-6100.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond B. Hom Reg. No. 44,773

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor San Francisco, California 94111-3834 Tel: 858-350-6100 Fax: 415-576-0300

Attachments RBH:jo 60260445 v1